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NEWTOWN and LLANIDLOES
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.
(R.Davies-Jones,M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.,L.M.S.S.A.)
for the
Year Ended December 31st.,1942.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Newtown and Llanidloes Rural District Council,

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year ended December 31st., 1942.

The report is drawn up on the lines indicated in the Welsh Board of Health's Circular, and in order to economise labour and paper is confined to essential matters. I have omitted repetition of information given in previous reports.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R.Davies-Jones.

Medical Officer of Health.

MAENGWYN,
CARNEWS,
MONT.
October 20th.,1943.

WBH

STATISTICAL SURVEY for 1942.

AREA 15I23I acres.

POPULATION (on grounds of National Security this cannot be published.)

NUMBER of Inhabited Houses 2637

RATEABLE Value £I9,7I0

SUM represented by a penny rate £8I4- 0-I0.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	9I	7I	I62
Illegitimate	5	4	9
Total	96	75	I7I

This gives a Birth Rate of I7.03 per I,000 of population, that of England and Wales being I5.8; the Birth Rate for this area the previous year was I5.I and for England and Wales I4.2

Legitimate Birth Rate I5.8 per I,000 population.
Illegitimate Birth Rate 0.83 -- ---------- for District

STILL BIRTHS.	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	0	I	I
Total	2	4	6

This gives a Still-Birth Rate of 0.59 per I,000 of the population compared with 0.54 for England and Wales.

The Still-Birth Rate for this area the previous year was0.96 and for England and Wales 0.5I , therefore it will be seen that there was an improvement both in the Live Birth Rate and the Still Birth Rate in I942 compared with I94I in this area, in fact these are the best figures for the last- at least 4 years.

DEATHS

During the year there were I50 deaths in the area, 75 males and 75 females. This gives a Crude Death Rate of I4.76 per I,000 population, compared with II.6 for England and Wales. The rates for last year were I5.96 for this area, and I2.9 for England and Wales. War conditions make it impossible to secure Areal Comparability Factors. The effect of the Comparability Factor in previous years was to reduce the Death Rate of this area - that is, the Standardised Death Rate in this area is usually lower than the Crude Death Rate.

There was no death due to, or following upon Child-bearing or Child-birth during the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of Infants under I year of age was I3, - 8 males and 5 females. Not one of these deaths was of an illegitimate child. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 76.23 per I,000 live births. the figure for England and Wales being 49 for the year, compared with the previous year with75 for this area and 59 for England and Wales.

Of these I3 deaths of Infants, 4 were due to congenital deformities, 3 to premature birth, 2 to pneumonia, and I each to whooping cough, convulsions and wasting, and I to improper feeding together with lack of care and warmth - the last was the 6 weeks old baby of vagrants against whom proceedings were taken.

4 of these deaths occurred in the Ist. week of life
2 -- --- 2nd. --- - -----
and I -- --- 3rd. --- - -----

CAUSES OF DEATH. There were no deaths from Diphtheria, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Cerebro-spinal Fever, Syphilitic Diseases, Infantile Diarrhea, Diabetes, Maternal Causes, or Road Traffic Accidents.

There were (as shown) 27 deaths from Cancer, (9 males+ I8 females), compared with I3 for each of the previous 3 years. This gives a death rate from Cancer of 2.6 per I,000 population for the year. It will be seen that the chief causes of death were:- Heart Disease, 28, Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions (Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.) I6, Other Diseases of Circulatory System 6. So that Diseases of Heart and Circulato-

System accounted for 50 deaths - a third of the deaths - Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Non-Tuberculous Respiratory Diseases accounted for 19, all forms of Tuberculosis for 11, (compared with an average of 7 for each of the previous 3 years)

CAUSES of DEATH.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	2	9
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Influenza	1	-	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	5	7
Cancer of all other sites	7	13	20
Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions	10	6	16
Heart Disease	12	16	28
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	2	6
Bronchitis	5	6	11
Pneumonia	5	1	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive Organs	2	2	4
Nephritis	2	3	5
Premature Birth	3	-	3
Congenital Malformations and Infantile Diseases	3	2	5
Suicide	-	3	3
Violent Causes	1	1	2
All Other Causes	6	11	17
TOTALS	75	75	150

AGES AT DEATH Age Period	YEARS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
	0 - 1	8	5	13
	1 - 5	3	1	4
	5 -15	0	1	1
	15 -25	3	2	5
	25 -35	2	-	2
	35 -45	4	5	9
	45 -55	7	8	15
	55 -65	13	16	29
	65 -75	13	14	27
	75 -85	16	16	32
	85 -95	6	7	13
	TOTALS	75	75	150

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 13 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified - 6 pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary, 8among males and 4 females.
The following table shows the age and sex distribution of these cases.

AGE GROUP	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	male	female	male	female
5 - 15years	nil	nil	1	2
15 - 25———	2	1	2	nil
25 - 45———	2	1	nil	nil
65 and over	nil	nil	1(aged 66)	-
TOTALS	4	2	4	2

There were 11 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year (8 males and 3 females), 9 of these deaths were due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 to other forms of Tuberculosis. The following table shows the age and sex distribution of these 11 deaths:-

AGE GROUP	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	male	female	male	female
15 - 25 yrs	1	1	1	-
25 - 45 yrs	4	-	-	1
45 - 65 yrs	2	1	-	-
TOTALS	7	2	1	1

The following table shows the number of DEATHS from TUBERCULOSIS in each of the Urban and Rural Districts of Montgomeryshire during the THIRTEEN YEARS 1930 to 1942

DISTRICT		ESTIMATED POPULATION in 1939	TOTAL NUMBER of DEATHS from TUBERCULOSIS
Llanfyllin	M.B.	1,377	12
Llanidloes	M.B.	2,533	26
Machynlleth	U.D.	1,901	24
Montgomery	M.B.	850	5
Newtown + Ll.	U.D.	4,812	50
Welshpool	M.B.	5,397	23
TOTAL URBAN		16,870	142
Forden	R.D.	4,937	31
Llanfyllin	R.D.	10,930	83
Machynlleth	R.D.	3,381	61
Newtown and Llanidloes	R.D.	9,812	111
TOTAL RURAL		29,040	285
Total COUNTY		45,710	427

These figures have been extracted from a more detailed table prepared by Mr. J.E.Tonley, to whom I would acknowledge my thanks for his trouble,help and encouragement.

The above table shows that more than a quarter of the total deaths from Tuberculosis in this County during the last 13 years occurred in this Council's area,which has a population of less than a quarter of that of the County. Llanfyllin Rural District,with a slightly higher population has a better record - a total of 83 deaths compared with this area, but Machynlleth Rural District,in proportion to its population,is much worse than this area.

The 111 deaths in 13 years gives an average of 8.5 deaths from Tuberculosis each year in this Council's area. The figure 11 for 1942 shows an appreciable increase on this average.

The following table shows the Average Annual Mortality Rate from Tuberculosis per 1,000,000 population for the 4 years 1939 to 1942

	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	ALL FORMS
England and Wales	567	112	679
Wales including Monmouthshire	645	132	779
Montgomery County	463	114	577
Newtown + Llanidloes R.D.	569	132	701

This table shows the high death rate from tuberculosis in

this area is due in the main to the Non-Pulmonary form - in fact the mortality rate from NON-Pulmonary Tuberculosis is VERY exceptionally HIGH in this area.

NOTIFICATIONS of TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the state of the Register of Notifications concerning Tuberculosis for this area since 1929

	Male	Female	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total Pulmonary +Non-Pulmonary
On Register Dec.31st,1929	19	20	32	7	39
Added to Register from 1929 to Dec. 31st,1942	126	101	165	62	227
TOTAL	145	131	197	69	266
Removed from Register,considered to be NON-Tubercular(after very thorough investigation)	8	6	6	8	14
	137	115	191	61	252

Of these 252 cases of verified Tuberculosis I find that up to 31st.Dec,1942

124 had died of Tuberculosis
29 had recovered and so their names have been removed from the register
4 had died from causes other than Tuberculosis
14 had left the district, and so far there are
4 the condition or address of whom I am still unable to trace.

Allowing for these removals from the register,(totalling 175) we are left with 77 current cases on the register on Dec.31st, 1942, distributed as follows:-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	53	36	12	6	45	32
TOTALS	59		18		77	

The 252 cases of verified notifications of Tuberculosis were distributed among the 15 Parishes in the Council's area as follows:-

PARISH	MALE		FEMALE		TOTALS		TOTAL Pulm. +Non-Pulm.
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm	Pulm.	Non-Pulm	Pulm.	Non-Pulm	
Aberhafesp	—	—	2	—	2	—	2
Bettws	1	—	3	1	4	1	5
Carno	7	1	5	1	12	2	14
Kerry	10	6	15	2	25	6	31
Llandinam	7	4	5	3	12	7	19
Llangurig	8	3	9	1	17	4	21
Llanidloes Without	19	4	10	3	29	7	36
Llanllugan	2	1	5	0	7	1	8
Llanwnog	17	11	14	2	31	13	44
Llanwyddelan	2	-	1	-	3	-	3
Manafon	3	1	1	-	4	1	5
Mochdre	3	1	5	-	8	1	9
Penstrowed	2	1	1	-	3	1	4
Trefeglwys	12	7	17	3	29	15	44
Treygynon	4	-	3	-	7	-	7
	97	40	94	21	191	61	252

As these Parishes differ from eachother in population I have expressed below the rate per 1,000 of the population - that is, the 252 notifications received have been allotted to their respective parishes and expressed as if each parish had a population of 1,000. The population given is that of the 1931 Census;the population may have varied a little as a whole but I do not think that there is any appreciable alteration in the variations as between different parishes.

VERIFIED NOTIFICATIONS of TUBERCULOSIS

1923 - 1942 (inclusive) per 1,000 POPULATION

PARISH	Population	Pulm	Non-Pulm	TOTAL Pulm+Non-Pulm
Aberhafesp	344	5.8	++	5.8
Bettws	461	8.5	2.1	10.6
Carno	601	19.9	3.3	23.2
Kerry	1026	22.4	7.7	30.1
Llandinam	1946	9.6	5.6	15.2
Llangurig	908	13.7	4.4	23.1
Llanidloes Without	307	31.9	7.7	39.6
Llanllugan	276	25,3	3.6	28.9
Llanwnog	1526	20.3	3.5	23.9
Llanwyddelan	230	13.0	nil	13.0
Manafon	545	10.6	2.9	13.5
Mochdre	373	21.1	2.6	23.7
Penstrowed	107	28.0	9.3	37.3
Trefeglwys	923	29.5	15.2	44.7
Tregynon	991	7.0	nil	7.0
Average for the 15 Parishes		13.1	4.3	22.9

RELATIVE POSITIONS of the PARISHES in THIS AREA

judged by Number of Verified Notifications during last 16 years

RATE per 1,000 POPULATION

RELATIVE POSITION of PARISH	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		ALL FORMS	
1	Llanidloes Wt.	31.9	Trefeglwys	15.2	Trefeglwys	44.7
2	Trefeglwys	29.5	Penstrowed	9.3	Llanidloes Wt.	39.6
3	Penstrowed	28.0	Llanwnog	8.5	Penstrowed	37.3
4	Llanllugan	25.3	Llanidloes Wt	7.7	Kerry	30.1
5	Kerry	22.4	Kerry (equal 4)	7.7	Llanllugan	28.9
6	Mochdre	21.1	Llandinam	5.6	Llanwnog	23.9
			Average for all Parishes	4.3		
7	Llanwnog	20.3	Llangurig	4.4	Mochdre	23.7
8	Carno	19.9	Llanllugan	3.6	Carno	23.2
9	Llangurig	13.7	Carno	3.3	Llangurig	23.1
	Average for all Parishes	13.1			Average for all Parishes	22.9
10	Llanwyddelan	13.0	Manafon	2.9	Llandinam	15.2
11	Manafon	10.6	Mochdre	2.6	Manafon	13.5
12	Llandinam	9.6	Bettws	2.1	Llanwyddelan	13.0
13	Bettws	8.5	Llanwyddelan	nil	Bettws	10.6
14	Tregynon	7.0	Aberhafesp	nil	Tregynon	7.0
15	Aberhafesp	5.8	Tregynon	nil	Aberhafesp	5.8

From this table it will be seen that, judged by the incidence of Tuberculosis, Trefeglwys is by far the most unhealthy parish in this area and that it is followed by Llanidloes Without. This bears out the opinion often expressed to the Council, that much of the high incidence of tuberculosis in this area can be traced to the men who worked in the old lead mines at the Van, - that is that it is a legacy of an industrial hazard, the men infecting their wives , and they in turn andjointly

infecting their children.

It is interesting and noteworthy that the 5 contiguous parishes in the North-Eastern portion of the area - Aberhafesp, Tregynon, Bettws, Llanwyddelan and Manafon, have by far the best record in the area - the state of affairs revealed by these statistics is very satisfactory in these parishes. But Llanllugan appears to claim some affinity to its Southern neighbours, Carno and Llanwnog, rather than with its 5 Eastern neighbours Tregynon, Llanwyddelan, Manafon, Aberhafesp and Bettws, with which it appears to be more closely associated geographically.

Llanguric and Llanwnog appear to be in better relative positions, and Kerry, Penstrowed and Llanllugan worse, than one hitherto was liable to believe.

It will be seen from these tables that there is, proportionately, a much wider variation from the average in the distribution of the Non - pulmonary forms of tuberculosis than there is among the pulmonary forms. As milk is considered to be a most potent factor in the causation of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, special vigilance should be paid to the milk and dairies in the Parishes of Trefeglwys, Penstrowed, Llanwnog, Llanidloes Without and Kerry, in that order. If the excess of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis could be reduced in these parishes it would go a long way to reduce the very high relative position this Council holds among sanitary authorities for its incidence of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

As to the Pulmonary forms - this form is spread by contact with open cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and can only be prevented by avoiding or minimising as far as possible such contact. This can only be done by segregating active cases, and preventing overcrowding - that is, by providing sufficient beds in Sanatoria for the active cases, ensuring that such cases are admitted to the Sanatoria and kept there as long as they are infectious; while waiting for admission and after their discharge they should live in decent airy houses and be well fed and clothed. Sufficient and good housing would minimise contact with such cases before a definite diagnoses has been established, and where admission to Sanatoria is refused by the patient or delayed; and so I would recommend that the Council give special consideration to the housing ~~considerations~~ conditions in the following Parishes:-Llanidloes Without, Trefeglwys, Penstrowed, Llanllugan, Kerry, Mochdre, Llanwnog and Carno, and that in the post-war building programme that these parishes be allotted a larger number of houses than the present population appear to entitle them to. The number eff of extra houses built could bear some relationship to the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis revealed by the tables in the various parishes.

SUMMARY

Mortality tables show that the death-rate from Tuberculosis is high in this area, and that the main excess is in the Non-Pulmonary forms.

Analyses of the verified notifications show that the high incidence of Tuberculosis in this area is due to exceptionally high incidence in 3 or 4 parishes, and particularly so in 2 - Trefeglwys and Llanidloes Without, and that there is a much greater variation between the I5 parishes in the incidence of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis than there is in the Pulmonary form. If the incidence of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the Parish of Trefeglwys and of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Llanidloes Without and Trefeglwys parishes could be reduced, then this area would e compare favourably with its neighbours in the incidence of and mortality from Tuberculosis.

N O T I F I C A T I O N S of I N F E C T I O U S D I S E A S E S.

The following notifications were received during the year:-

	1942	1941	1940	1939
Scarlet Fever	3	I0	I5	23
Whooping Cough	I0	I2	8	not notifiable
Diphtheria	4	3	2	2
Erysipilas	6	6	5	5
Measles	6	I05	2I3	not notifiable
Pneumonia	2I	39	35	I5
Puerperal Pyrexea	—	I	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	5	—	—
TOTAL	50	I8I	276	—

It will be seen that the year I942 was remarkably free from Infectious Diseases. The 4 cases of Diphtheria were caused by the transfer of an evacuee child from Forden R.D.C. to this area - the

child was found to have Diphtheria on arrival,but had transmitted the disease to 3 others who shared her quarters or nursed her immediately on arrival.

GENERAL ORGANISATION of HEALTH SERVICES in the AREA.

The Public Health Staff of your Council consists of the Medical Officer (part time) and a qualified Sanitary Inspector (Mr.H.R. Thomas),who is a whole-time Officer. The Sanitary Inspector's report is attached hereto.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS

Immunisation of children against Diphtheria continues. The major part of this work is done by the County Medical Officer of Health, but an appreciable number of children have also been immunised by private arrangement by the medical practitioners in the area. It should be widely realised that children under school age and not on the school register can and should be immunised without charge by the School Medical Officer, who is very anxious that all children between 1 and 5 years of age should be brought to him on his visits to the schools,and receive their prophylactic injections.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES in the AREA.

The Water Supply of Caersws remains very unsatisfactory,for the same reasons as given in my last report. The Council has expressed its desire to form a joint committee with the other Sanitary Authorities in the County,to investigate the possibility of supplying water to the rural parts of the County;it may be found more practicable to supply the many hamlets and parishes spread throughout the various Council areas from one, two,or more sources in the County,than for each Council to arrange for several separate small water-supply schemes in its own area.

Anglesey ~~Caernarvon~~ County Council has resolved to promote a Parliamentary Bill enabling it to proceed with a water supply scheme for the whole island,at an approximate cost of £500,000.All the District Councils in the island,with one exception,have agreed to the scheme. Even this one Council not agreeing to the scheme objected simply on the grounds of location of supply,and not to the principle of one centralised supply,and it may withdraw its objection. It was generally agreed that the scheme could not possibly be carried out by the County from its own resources,but the prevailing opinion was that the Government would give a grant towards the cost immediately the war was over.

If Anglesey succeeds with its Parliamentary Bill,it might encourage Montgomeryshire to seek the same powers.Such a supply would be easier to obtain in this County than in Anglesey and this Council's area has plenty of potential supplies;for example,making an impounding reservoir above Llanwyllin,using the waters of the River Tranwn as a catchment area. there are numerous other potential supplies in this area.

In concluding,I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the Council's interest and co-operation in safeguarding and advancing the health of their district,and my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector for his valuable service.

October, 1944.

To the Chairman & Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a summary of the conditions existing and of the work carried out by the health department for the year ending December, 1944.

Inspections and visits made.....[illegible]
Cases of Infectious Diseases Investigated..... 4
Number of premises disinfected..... 4
Inspections made under the Milk & Dairies Order..141
Inspections under the Factories Acts..... 30

Supervision & Inspection of Food.

Periodic visits were made to food premises. The supply of meat received in the district is received from slaughtering at Newton and Llanfilo which are under the control of the Ministry of Food. The method of transportation, condition of vehicles and the handling of meat is on the whole satisfactory.

Sampling of foods for adulteration under the Foods and Drugs Act is undertaken by the county authorities.

The following is a summary of foods examined and found to be unfit for food and destroyed:-

32 lbs of cheese, 4 lbs of ham, 32 lbs of flour, 4 tins of pilchards, 4 tins of milk, 1 tin of sardines.

Milk & Dairies.

During the year 49 applications for registration under the Order were approved and granted for the production of milk. In view of the present day circumstances and the national need for milk throughout the country slight relaxation of the pre-war requirements regarding the structural condition of premises was allowed. But under no circumstances would the continued production of milk be permitted unless certain features regarding the premises were present in order to ensure that the premises can be maintained in a reasonable state of cleanliness and the process of milking carried out under fairly clean conditions.

The sampling of the liquid milk is carried out under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries working in conjunction with the War Agricultural Executive Committee. We usually submit copies of reports made on samples that prove to be unsatisfactory to the [illegible] of the district in which the milk is produced. During the year no report was received, and therefore, one may conclude that the milk produced in your district on the whole is very satisfactory.

Periodic improvements are noted in the method of collecting milk by the collecting bowls. The system of pouring milk from a partly filled churn into a churn containing milk produced at a different time is frankly unsatisfactory; another practice which is to be strongly deplored is that of leaving empty churns on the ground near the stand thereby they are open to all forms of contamination, namely surface waters from roadways, gutters and fouling by various animals.

The total number of premises registered under the Milk & Dairies Order last is 247.

Water Supply.

During the year 2,336,627 gallons of water were pumped at the Water Works, Caerews; the number of units used in the pumping process was 5449. It is impossible to make a true comparison with the position during the year 1941 for the following reasons:- From 29th September, 1941 to 13th December, 1941 the water registering meter was out of action and under repairs. For a period of 8 weeks - 19th April, 1941 to 15th June, 1941 an additional electric pump was installed and working continuously during this period and the current being registered through the usual meter.

In addition to the water works the Council are responsible for the following public wells:-

2 wells at Carno - Pranhwell and Post Office Row.
1 well in the village at Adfa.

The Caerews Water Supply continues to maintain a high standard of purity bacteriologically but owing to its chemical composition and the high content of certain minerals the water is rendered unsatisfactory for certain purposes. It is continuously discoloured a brownish colouration and deposits a reddish-brown sediment in the water pipes. A serious property possessed by the water is its corrosive action on water pipes and fittings which necessitates the renewal of pipes in a number of cases. Unfortunately owing to its distinctive properties and characteristics the fullest advantages are not made of the supply by a large number of villagers who still draw their supply of water from existing wells which in a number of cases the water is not always of the purest quality.

The majority of houses in the Rural District rely for their supplies upon private wells, although in a number of villages piped supply have been provided to a number of houses. With the exception of Caerews the supplies are privately owned. The villages in which a piped supply is available to certain premises are as follows:-

Kerry, Llandinam, Llanguric, Trefeglwys, Bettws.

General Sanitary Circumstances.

The collection of refuse is undertaken by the Council at Caerews where a weekly collection is in operation, the work being done by contract. At Kerry the Council have provided a site for the depositing of refuse by the villagers. No organised collection is undertaken, the occupiers of each individual premises being responsible for the conveyance of the refuse to the site which is approximately ½ mile from the village.

The collection of nightsoil is not undertaken in any part of the District. Parts of certain villages are fortunate in being connected to private sewers. A number of houses and groups of houses have their own small disposal systems but in the majority of premises the nightsoil presents a major problem to the occupiers especially in the more populated and compact villages of the District.

During the year 3 premises were provided with new drainage and 5 premises have disposal plants installed.

Housing.

Owing to prevailing circumstances no Housing Survey was made during the year and it is difficult to proceed with drastic action in the case of individual unfit houses. No schemes for the provision of additional houses by the Council were made during the year. The 30 houses owned by the Council were all occupied on December, 31st.

Infectious Diseases - Disinfection. After notification of infectious

diseases all infected premises and clothing are disinfected by fumigation. In certain cases where it is deemed advisable infected articles are destroyed. Although fumigation proves quite efficient in certain cases, there are others which can only be adequately treated by steam; by arrangement with the County Authorities and co-operation of the Master, steam disinfection, when found to be necessary, is carried out at the Public Institution, Coorow.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,

H.H. THOMAS.